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Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Congo, France, Germany, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Moldova, Nigeria, Norway, Sierra Leone, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yemen: draft resolution

Strengthened transparency in the extractive industries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, in which it declared that the right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural resources must be exercised in the interest of their national development and of the well-being of the people of the State concerned,

Emphasizing that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society, are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger, and economic and sustainable development,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they have received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable

* Reissued for technical reasons.
[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] See resolution 60/1.

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them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Reaffirming the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, as envisaged by the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3]

Welcoming the launch of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative[4] at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002,

Noting with appreciation the efforts by Governments, the extractive industry and civil society to implement the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, having established clear principles and criteria for its implementation,

1. *Strongly supports* the important work undertaken by the implementing countries and supporting Governments in this respect as well as the ongoing joint efforts of the Governments, industry and civil society to promote transparency and accountability in the extractive industry and urges all relevant stakeholders to support and complement those efforts;

2. *Invites* Governments participating[5] in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative to further promote and implement it as well as to share their experience with the interested countries, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Initiative;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the pioneering work undertaken by the Governments that took the lead in joining and advancing the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative process through regular reporting at the national level;

4. *Reiterates* its invitation to all Member States to ratify or accede to and fully implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption[6] as soon as possible, and invites all relevant stakeholders to assist in strengthening the institutional capacities of States and civil society, as appropriate, to eradicate corruption;

5. *Urges* the private sector, including corporations engaged in international business activities, to pursue orderly and fair business practices while adhering to and promoting the principles of honesty, transparency and accountability in international commercial transactions;

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[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) supports improved governance in resource-rich countries through the verification and full publication of company payments and government revenues from oil, gas and mining. The Initiative works to build multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to increase the accountability of Governments (http://www.eitransparency.org/).

[5] As of February 2008, the implementing countries are: Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and Yemen. Supporting countries include: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[6] Resolution 58/4.

6. *Underscores* the importance of raising public awareness of the benefits of implementing the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and, in this regard, welcomes the commitment of Governments participating in the Initiative to ensure public access to the relevant information;

7. *Encourages* relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, within their mandates, and other relevant institutions and organizations to support the efforts of the Governments participating in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, upon their request, to strengthen transparency in the extractive industries, including the Initiative, and to complement their efforts.

8. *Invites* the International Secretariat of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative to make available the information, as appropriate, on the implementation of the Initiative at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.